



State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY R. HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

Representatives Present During the Inspection:

OGM	Priscilla Burton	Environmental Scientist III
Company	David Shaver	Manager

Inspection Report

Permit Number:	C0070041
Inspection Type:	COURTESY
Inspection Date:	Tuesday, October 21, 2008
Start Date/Time:	10/21/2008 8:30:00 AM
End Date/Time:	10/21/2008 11:30:00 AM
Last Inspection:	Monday, September 22, 2008

Inspector: Priscilla Burton, Environmental Scientist III

Weather: sun 50

InspectionID Report Number: 1813

Accepted by: jhelfric

11/10/2008

Permittee: **WEST RIDGE RESOURCES**

Operator: **WEST RIDGE RESOURCES**

Site: **WEST RIDGE MINE**

Address: **PO BOX 1077, PRICE UT 84501**

County: **CARBON**

Permit Type: **PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM**

Permit Status: **ACTIVE**

Current Acreages

6,114.89	Total Permitted
29.06	Total Disturbed
	Phase I
	Phase II
	Phase III

Mineral Ownership

- ☒ Federal
☒ State
☐ County
☐ Fee
☐ Other

Types of Operations

- ☒ Underground
☐ Surface
☐ Loadout
☐ Processing
☐ Reprocessing

Report summary and status for pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments:

Mr. Shaver and I reviewed the contents of an emergency amendment to be submitted for three degas wells to remove methane from panel 13. We drove up the pre-existing jeep trail to Bear Canyon to the site of three proposed Bear canyon degas wells in T 14 S, R 13 E, Section 3. The road which begins in Sec. 15 is not currently shown on Permit Area Map 1-0 and, heretofore, has been little more than a 4X4 jeep trail. Mr. Shaver and I discussed whether the road would be included in the permit application. After researching this issue with the BLM, SITLA, and Carbon County, my conclusion is that the road should not be included in the permit area, except for the portion along the right fork of Bear Canyon where it diverges from County Rd.667. Three soil pits were observed. Soil salvage depths described in a recent soil survey were evaluated. I took this opportunity to remind Mr. Shaver of commitments in Appendix 2-6 to provide annual evaluations of soils and vegetation related to the experimental practice, due before the end of 2008.

Inspector's Signature: _____

Priscilla Burton

Priscilla Burton, Environmental Scientist III

Inspector ID Number: 37

Date Wednesday, October 29, 2008

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining.

REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

1. Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
 - a. For COMPLETE inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check Not Applicable.
 - b. For PARTIAL inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by reference the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
3. Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
4. Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

	Evaluated	Not Applicable	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Signs and Markers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Topsoil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Explosives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Disposal of Excess Spoil, Fills, Benches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Noncoal Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Slides and Other Damage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Contemporaneous Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Backfilling And Grading	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Revegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Subsidence Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Cessation of Operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.b Roads: Drainage Controls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Other Transportation Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Support Facilities, Utility Installations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS Check	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Air Quality Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. Bonding and Insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

An amendment to drill three degas wells and install four compressors in T 14 S, R 13 E, Section 3 was received at the Salt Lake DOGM offices on October 24, 2008 and is under review as Task 3077. The degas wells will be constructed on SITLA land that was acquired by the State of Utah through the 1998 Schools and Federal Land Exchange Act, P.L. 105-335 (see email from John Blake, dated October 15, 2008). SITLA acquired coal lease ML49287 in 2004.

3. Topsoil

A soil survey of the proposed degas well site was completed on October 7, 2008. Elevation is approximately 7,200 ft. on a northwest facing foot slope on. Two soil pits and a cut face were utilized in the soil survey and were observed during this site visit. Photographs taken during this site visit are in the Images\10212008 folder. The dark, rich, organic soil (mollic) layers were clearly visible. This dark soil color will be used as a guide during soil salvage. Soil salvage should be easily accomplished from the existing level pad at the end of the road. Mr. Shaver will be present as a qualified person, familiar with the plan, to ensure that the surface 12 - 17 inches of soil is salvaged. Rocks and stones may be transported and stored with the topsoil so that the replaced surface soil will be consistent with the surroundings. Large boulders will likely be shattered and carried with the topsoil to the topsoil storage site.

The topsoil storage site is down the canyon approximately 0.6 miles. The location is a wide level, undisturbed location adjacent to the road. The location will need little development work, other than to remove a large boulder. The native soils will be marked with geotextile fabric.

According to Map 1-0, revised 10/15/08, the Bear Canyon jeep trail is the access for the topsoil borrow area on SITLA lands. The jeep trail goes through the topsoil borrow area. Bill Barrett Corp. was widening the road to approximately 30 ft in this vicinity.

12. Backfilling And Grading

A cut slope of approximately 25 ft will be created. The existing pad will be widened by approximately 30 ft. to accommodate four compressor pumps. As shown on the proposed facility map, the existing slope rises about 30 ft horizontal per 20 ft vertical or 1.5h:1v. This steep slope is well vegetated with evergreen groundcover (Pachistima) and evergreen trees and shrubs (see photos in Images folder 10/21/08).

13. Revegetation

This degas well site will not be reclaimed until the mining operation ceases. The road will not be reclaimed. I requested that Mr. Shaver include in the application a statement from the land owner requesting the retention of the upgraded road on SITLA lands to support a post mining land use.

16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing

The Bear Canyon access road is not currently shown on Permit Area Map 1-0. The road begins in Sec. 15 and traverses through BLM and SITLA owned surface. Heretofore, the road has been little more than a very rough, 4X4 jeep trail. Mr. Shaver and I discussed whether the road would be included in the permit application. Mr. Shaver stated that the road is a public road and would not be included in the permit area. According to the BLM, the road was constructed across Section 10 and into Sec. 3 by Geneva Steel in the 1950's for the purpose of coal exploration, in conjunction with BLM lease U01756 (BLM plat map, attached). However, the BLM does not claim the road where it now enters SITLA lands. Geneva Steel request right of way over the BLM lands in 1950. The Geneva Steel ROW request does not specify the road alignment that is shown on the BLM Plat map for the U01756 road access (see Incoming email from Steve Rigby dated 10/22/08).

The Bear Canyon road (a.k.a. County Rd. 667) is shown on Carbon County's website GIS road layer (attached), but does not enter SITLA lands in Section 10 or Sec. 3. The County Road 667 goes north, up the left fork of Bear Canyon, on BLM lands, along the east boundary of Section 4 before crossing the NW 1/4 of section 4 into private lands. This county road alignment was confirmed on October 29, 2008 by Rex Sacco, County Road Supervisor. Mr. Sacco stated that the County is negotiating for an easement in perpetuity for this road where it crosses SITLA lands and that the county claims the road under RS-2477 rules where it crosses federal lands. Neither the County nor the BLM lay claim to the jeep trail on the East Fork of Bear Canyon in T 4 S., R. 13 E., Sec. 10 and Sec. 3. SITLA does claim this road, acquired from the BLM in 1998. The existing jeep road ends in Section 3 at the exploration pad. There are no foot or ATV trails going up canyon from this pad. My conclusion is that the public road runs up the left fork of Bear Canyon and is labeled Co. Rd. 665, but the road running up the right fork of Bear Canyon does not fit the R645-100 definition of public road and should be permitted for its length from the point where it diverges from County Rd. 667 to where it ends at the drill pad (approximately one mile).

Both Bill Barrett Corp. and West Ridge Resources have been improving the jeep road from the existing paved C Canyon road to the proposed Bear Cyn well site (3.4 miles). To access a new well site, Bill Barrett has been improving the first mile of road in Sec 16. Prior to this site visit, SCAMP Excavation has been improving the road on BLM in Sec. 9 and on SITLA land in Sections 10 and 3. During the inspection, SCAMP crews were cutting logs from trees that had recently been removed from the sides of the road and from the hillside of the proposed pad site.

16.b Roads: Drainage Controls

The recently graded jeep trail has no sediment control. I asked whether Mr. Shaver had a work agreement with either the BLM, the County or SITLA. He did not. SITLA indicated that they had not yet, but would soon be monitoring road development on their lands (personal communication with Randy Harden 10/22/08). BLM indicated they had not yet, but may monitor road development on their lands (personal communication with Mike Robinson 10/23/08). Carbon County was not aware of work being done to improve the road (personal communication with Mr. Sacco on 10/28/08).

22. Other

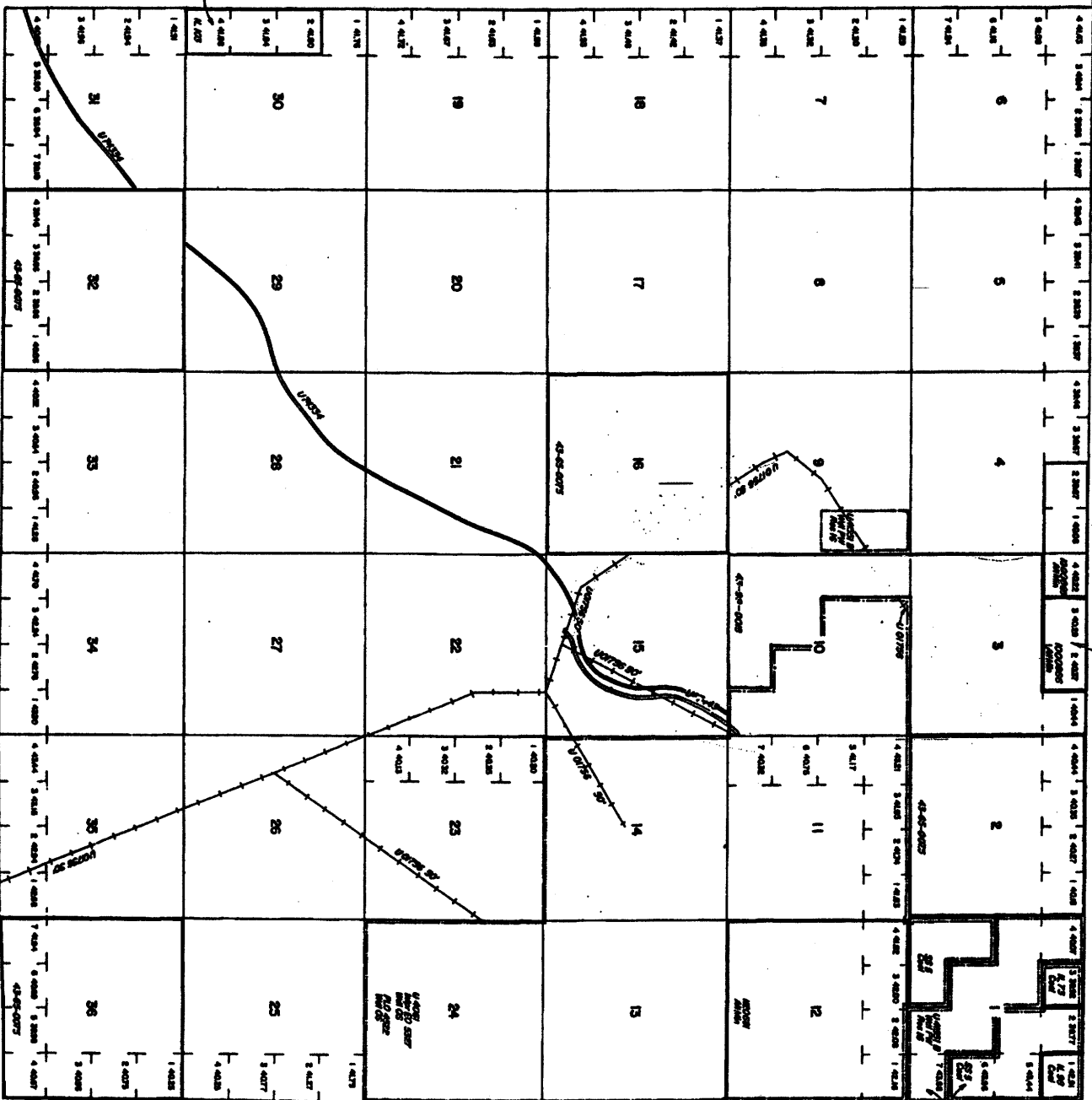
I took this opportunity to remind Mr. Shaver of the West Ridge Resources commitments in Appendix 2-6 to provide annual evaluations of soils and vegetation related to the experimental practice. In November 2007, Mr. Shaver and I also reviewed the requirements for the Experimental Test Plots and soil sampling, see Inspection Report #1468. Since that time, there has been no change to Appendix 2-6 or the Addendum. For West Ridge Resource to remain in compliance with R645-300-143 and R645-302-216 and for the Division to remain in compliance with R645-302-217, vegetation and soils evaluations must be received before the end of 2008.

TOWNSHIP 14 SOUTH RANGE 13 EAST OF THE SALT LAKE MERIDIAN, UTAH
PRICE FIELD OFFICE
CARBON COUNTY

STATUS OF PUBLIC DOMAIN
LAND AND MINERAL TITLES

INDEX TO SEQUESTERED TRACTS			
TRACT NO.	SECTION	ACRES	STATUS
1	1	1.00	
2	2	1.00	
3	3	1.00	
4	4	1.00	
5	5	1.00	
6	6	1.00	
7	7	1.00	
8	8	1.00	
9	9	1.00	
10	10	1.00	
11	11	1.00	
12	12	1.00	
13	13	1.00	
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28	28	1.00	
29	29	1.00	
30	30	1.00	
31	31	1.00	
32	32	1.00	
33	33	1.00	
34	34	1.00	
35	35	1.00	
36	36	1.00	

FOR OWNERS AFFECTED BY THIS REPORT, SEE USE OF
UNDEVELOPED LANDS WITHIN THE CLASSIFICATION
APPLICABLE, AND/OR OTHER PUBLIC PURPOSES
REFER TO INDEX OF RECORDS FOR DOCUMENTS.



Lat 39°33'34"N
Long 110°24'10"W

CURRENT TO	
7-13-2007	14 S
10	13 E

